

# Summary of the Proceedings of the Diocesan Council

*3 February 2007*

## **Assessment Reductions**

Two parishes requested reductions in assessments—St. Paul's, Munster and St. John of the Cross, Bristol. The Council approved a reduction of \$10,000.00 for St. John of the Cross, Bristol. The Council directed St. Paul's, Munster to reorganize its accounting system and perform an audit prior to further consideration of its request.

## **Year-end 2006**

Sharon Katona presented the year-end report for 2006. There was an overage of approximately \$38,600. The Council decided to return this money to the parishes on a pro-rated basis.

## **Millennium Development Goals**

With regard to Convention's approval of 0.7% of the budgeted income to go towards the MDGs, the Council approved three equal payments of \$2,000.00 each to the Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation to assist AIDS orphans, to Bishop Lloyd Allen of Honduras for one of their anti-poverty outreach programs, and the Rev'd George Minnix who travels regularly performing immunizations and contributing to micro-enterprise programs.

*14 April 2007*

## **Assessment Reductions**

Foster Cross visited St. Paul's, Munster for two days. There is now a system being developed which is much more useful for tracking the state of parish finances. It was moved that the 75% reduction request be granted. This will amount to \$19,118.

## **Assessment Process**

It was seen that assessments based on the three-year average as we have been doing it is a fair process—very little difference was noted in comparing three-year, two-year, and one-year bases.

*9 June 2007*

## **Assessment Reductions**

Trinity, Michigan City petitioned to be relieved of the remainder of the year's assessment, citing a deficit of over \$20,000.00 in current operating costs. The Council approved the petition with the stipulation that if their financial situation improves the parish will pay what it can and to work with the Canon to the Ordinary on a long-range pastoral plan. A correction was made to the assessment of All Saints', Syracuse as an error had been made in the assessment reporting.

**Life Insurance for Lay Employees**

Sharon Katona presented a plan to offer life insurance to lay employees who work for at least 20 hours a week throughout the parishes of the diocese. This would be an additional expense for parishes which wanted to take advantage of the plan. The plan was approved.

*27 July 2007*

**2008 Budget**

The budget for 2008 was passed.

**Darkness Into Day/A New Wind**

The Council designated Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> for parishes to accept donations for hurricane rebuilding efforts in the dioceses of Mississippi and Louisiana. Each bishop in the Episcopal Church has been asked to bring \$10,000.00 for this purpose to the House of Bishop's meeting in September. The Council approved of this goal.

*29 September 2007*

**Assessment Reductions**

Four parishes petitioned the Council for reductions in their assessment for 2008—Trinity, Michigan City; St. John of the Cross, Bristol; St. Paul's, Munster; and Grace, Fort Wayne. The Council approved partial reductions of the following amounts per parish, respectively: \$15,984.00, \$12,503, \$21,146.34, and \$4,488.70.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev'd Canon John E. Schramm, Secretary to Convention  
Jon Adamson, Secretary to the Bishop